HABS No. NJ-819

Roosevelt Stadium
West of the intersection of State Route 440
and Danforth Avenue
Jersey City
Hudson County
New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWING

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MID-ATLANTIC REGION NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

ROOSEVELT STADIUM

HABS No. NJ-819

LOCATION: West of the intersection of State Route 440 and Danforth Avenue at Droyers Point, Jersey City, Hudson County, New Jersey. USGS Jersey City, N.J.- N.Y. UTM Coordinates: 18.575640.4506320.

PRESENT OWNER: City of Jersey City

PRESENT OCCUPANT: None

PRESENT USE: Vacant. Proposed use of site is for a residential development with community and commercial facilities and a marina. This will result in demolition of the stadium. Proposed demolition and construction is scheduled for 1985.

SIGNIFICANCE: Roosevelt Stadium is a significant structure in the history of New Jersey and the racial integration of baseball. The stadium is associated with Mayor Frank Hague as a physical manifestation, much like the Jersey City Medical Center, of his power and strong connections to the Democratic party and to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The building is also significant for its association with important events in the history of baseball. It was here that Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier by being the first black ball player to play in the minor leagues. Roosevelt Stadium was one of the important minor league fields in use from 1937 to 1962. Additionally the stadium was used for two years, 1956-57, by the major leagues. It is one of the remaining minor league fields in the New Jersey area, but there are stadiums similar in age and size that are functioning today.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, is the association of the stadium with numerous civic events that collectively helped to create and maintain a sense of place, cultural, and society for the people of New Jersey. In a recent article in the New York Times the author wrote "It was the paradigm of elegance in a blue-collar town. It had the panache and an almost human-like quality, a personality of its own. It was our stadium, a center of the socio-economic-political fabric of Jersey City" (New York Times, July 1, 1984).

Throughout its history, from opening day in 1937, Roosevelt Stadium was the public gathering place for every major event, be it major league baseball or the home team high school and college games. It was also the site of local school events such as choral society and marching band competitions, and graduations. It was the scene of local holiday celebrations. In short, it was a meeting place for all the people of Jersey City and as such, the stadium embodies a time, an era, an overwhelming feeling of the essence of a city in its heyday in the 1930s and 1940s that simply no longer exists.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of Erection:

12 December 1935; ground breaking (<u>Jersey Journal</u>, 12 December 1935).

16 May 1936; 8 October 1936, date of architect's drawings. Located in Redevelopment Agency Office, City of Jersey City, New Jersey.

22 April 1937; opening day (<u>Jersey Journal</u>, 22 April 1937).

6 October 1938; stadium 90% completed (Jersey Journal, 6 October 1938).

2. Architect:

Christian H. Ziegler (1881-1957). Ziegler was described in his obituary as a "...noted Hudson County architect and a close affiliate of the political regime of the of Jersey City) Frank late (Mayor Haque...." (<u>Jersey Journal</u>, September 3, 1957: 12). Educated at Cooper Union, Ziegler was associated early in his career with John T. Rowland, chief architectural advisor to Hague. A lifelong resident of Jersey City, he was an architect for the Jersey City Board of Education and a member (appointed by Hague) of the State and Jersey City Housing Authorities. In addition to Roosevelt Stadium, Ziegler designed a number of other WPA funded projects including the Margaret Hague Memorial Maternity Hospital and Murdoch Hall, both part of the Jersey City Medical Center. He also designed seven housing projects in Jersey City and the city's YMCA. Outside of Jersey City Ziegler designed the Martland Medical Center, Newark; the Veteran's Administration Hospital, and army hospitals at Fort Dix and Orange; Monmouth. At his death, ironically at the Jersey City Medical Center, Ziegler was the senior partner Ziegler, Childs, and Paulsen (Jersey Journal, September 3, 1957: 12; New York Times, September 2, 1957: 13).

3. Original and Subsequent Owners:

References to the chain of title to the land upon which the structure was built can be found at the Register of Deeds and Mortgages, Hudson County Administration Building, Jersey City, New Jersey. 1913 Deed, June 12, 1913, recorded in Book 1156, page 201. Julia F. Siedler to the City of Jersey City.

1920 Grant, May 6, 1920, recorded in Book 1352, page 542. State of New Jersey to Jersey City.

1920 Grant, May 6, 1920, recorded in Book 1352, page 550. State of New Jersey to Jersey City.

4. Builder, Contractor, Suppliers:

The stadium was constructed by the Works Progress Administration; William H.J. Ely was State Administrator; Fred S. Childs, Chief Engineer and State Director, Division of Operations. Hugh L. Clarke was Jersey City Development Engineer, assisted by Herbert Hartmen.

5. Original Plans and Construction:

Roosevelt Stadium has not been substantially altered since construction was completed in 1938.

A set of architectural drawings, redrawn on linen by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) is on file at the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency (see attached list).

6. Alterations and Additions:

Major changes to the stadium are primarily the result of deterioration and abandonment of the structure over the past eight years. During this time light towers and the baseball scoreboard collapsed. Seats have been ripped out, windows smashed, and all interior spaces vandalized beyond recognition. Additionally, because of the collapse of the drainage system the dugouts and locker room tunnels are now flooded.

In order to stabilize the stadium and make it safe for use, remaining light towers and some walls were removed by order of the Jersey City Building Inspector. In the mid-1970s some original wood seats were replaced by plastic ones and an ice skating rink was added to the very rear of the outfield, centered on the outfield gates (see Chronological Clipping File for a complete list of these changes. File is at the Department of Housing & Economic Development, City of Jersey City, Jersey City, New Jersey).

Examination of original drawings and onsight inspection reveal original concession stands and ticket booths have been replaced; date unknown (Drawing A-19).

The most obvious change is the addition of a fountain just west of the stadium's main gate and the large parking area to the north of the stadium.

B. Historical Context:

Roosevelt Stadium was constructed on Newark Bay at Droyer's Point from 1935 to 1938. Sponsored by Mayor Frank Hague, the project was designed by Christian H. Ziegler, a local Jersey City architect and funded by the Works Progress Administration (Observer, December 10, 1934).

The stadium was one of a number of WPA projects in Hudson County, and in particular Jersey City, made possible by Major Frank Hague whose colorful and controversial politics were the driving force behind Jersey City for over forty years. Born in Jersey City in 1876, Hague, a Democrat, won his first local election in 1896 (Dorsett 1975: 3). He remained Mayor of Jersey City until 1947, maintaining power and patronage through a system of ward lieutenants who kept the city controlled in small manageable sectors and delivered votes at election time.

In the 1930s the depression and Roosevelt's New Deal were an opportunity for Hague to "...heighten the dependency of Jersey City families on his organization..." (Connors 1971: 81). "As the great depression deepened after 1929, it became clearer and clearer to Mayor Hague that the man who received the Democratic nomination in 1932 would be the next President" (Connors 1971: 95). Initially supporting Al Smith, a long time friend, as democratic candidate for President in 1932, Hague switched to Roosevelt.

As the undisputed leader of the New Jersey Democratic party in 1932, Hague advised Roosevelt to begin his campaign in New Jersey. Hague would deliver the state's votes necessary for FDR to win the election (Dorsett 1975: 4). Thus developed a pattern of mutually reciprocal political favors between Roosevelt and Hague. Roosevelt, elected President, repaid Hague grandly. After the election Hague was in control of all New Deal patronage in New Jersey. As a result of this during the 1930s between 76,000 and 97,000 people were annually employed through the WPA program and millions of dollars were spent in Hudson County (Dorsett 1975: 8).

The stadium was one of these projects. Though newspapers of the day reported a number of prominent citizens for whom the stadium should be named, Mayor Hague had no doubts as to the name "Roosevelt" for his new stadium.

Construction began with over \$1,000,000 of WPA financing in hand. Built over a period of four years, 1935-1938, the project employed over 2,400 relief workers whose wages were paid by the WPA (Recreation September 1937: 382).

The stadium was designed for use by the minor leagues and "...had one of the best minor league grandstands in the country..." with a long history of Triple A International League Baseball support (Shannon & Kalinsky 1957: 104).

The first game, on opening day, April 23, 1937, was between the Jersey Giants (the old New York Giants International League farm team) and the Rochester Red Wings (Hudson Dispatch, February 4, 1983: 20).

The stadium was host to a number of sporting and civic events throughout its lifetime. In addition to being home to the New Jersey Giants for twenty-five years (1937-1962), it was here that Jackie Robinson, in the minor leagues, broke baseball's color barrier, on August 18, 1946, when the Montreal Royals, farm team of the New York Dodgers, played the Jersey City Giants. Branch Ricky, president of the Dodgers had spotted Robinson and in an unprecedented move, signed him to the Royals. After Robinson's success with the Royals, Ricky signed him the following year, 1947, to the Brooklyn Dodgers, thereby making Robinson the first black player in the major leagues.

Roosevelt Stadium was home in the 1950s to the National Leagues when in an effort to force New York city officials to build them a new downtown Brooklyn stadium, the Dodgers moved their 1955 season to Roosevelt Stadium where a total of seven Dodger games were played. In 1956 all the National League clubs played the season at the Stadium (Shannon & Kalinsky 1975: 104).

The stadium was also the home of the New York Giants football training camp for a number of years (Jersey Journal, August 9, 1982: 24). Additional events included a boxing match in the 1950s with Sugar Ray Robinson and an exhibition game for the Green Bay Packers in 1960 (Hudson Dispatch, February 4, 1983: 20).

Throughout the 1940s and 1950s the stadium was the site of every major local ballgame including the traditional Thanksgiving game between St. Peter's and Dickinson High Schools (Hudson Dispatch, February 4, 1983: 20) and site of almost every local high school and college graduation.

Stadium use declined in the 1960s when the Jersey City Giants left in 1962. This followed the fate which most of the minor league teams suffered in the 1960s because of an increase in TV coverage of the majors and a large exodus to the suburbs dramatically lowered attendance at the games.

From 1972 to 1976 Roosevelt Stadium was the site of numerous rock concerts and indeed, today, the mention of Roosevelt Stadium to anyone in their 20's and 30's inevitably results in a chorus of "Oh, I saw group XYZ there; it was a great concert." The concerts were a last attempt to utilize the aging stadium, by then in a state of disrepair. In 1976 it was partially refurbished, but fans were eventually drawn away to the larger, all season, multi-purpose stadiums such as the Giants Stadium and the Brendon Byrne Arena, both in the New Jersey Meadowlands.

In the 1980s only an ice-skating rink was operational and today the stadium, deteriorated, is closed.

PART II ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural Character:

Roosevelt Stadium has an architectural form that gives an immediate and rather finite definition to the structure; i.e., a building designed to house spectators viewing spectator sports. The stadium is composed of a covered grandstand, flanked, on each end, by open bleachers. The playing field was originally surrounded by brick walls (the north one remains) which then joined at the outfield gates, which are directly opposite the center of the grandstand. Constructed of steel, concrete, brick and glazed tile the stadium has all of its architectural detailing on the exterior walls of the bleachers and grandstand.

The stadium is in the Art Deco style characterized by an overall tripartite geometery and vertical emphasis of entrance towers joined by walls, both filled with ver-

tical strips of windows. Towers and walls are clad in two shades of brown brick and purple glazed tiled columns topped by ochre colored capitals designed in a typical Art Deco tripartite design.

The view toward the water, the Bayonne Bridge and Port Newark, is a dramatic one yet the stadium turns its back to the water. Equally cut off from Newark Bay is the park just south of the stadium. The park has four interconnected circular walks which focus on a circle which at one time had a sundial in the center. This results in a park which faces east, which again means that the park turns its back to the water. Only in the parking area is there an unobstructed view of the Bay.

2. Condition of Fabric:

This structure is in poor condition with walls out of plumb, holes in the roof and serious water damage. Unchecked vandalism has resulted in destroyed seats, windows and in particular, demolished interior features. In 1978 the Jersey City Building inspector declared the structure unsafe and it has been closed to the public since 1982 (Jersey Journal, December 28, 1978, pp. 1,9).

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall Dimensions:

The stadium is an oval shaped structure 650' x 800', composed of a covered grandstand, flanked by two open bleachers with outfield walls and gates. The grandstand is 115'6" wide, 632'5" long, 107' wide and 50' high at the outside wall. Two bleachers are each 218'6" long, 107' wide and 60' high at the outside (Drawings A-2, A-6). Outfield walls are 15'61/2" high, 20" wide and 245'6 3/8" long. Outfield gates are each 32'8 7/8" high and 146' long (Drawing A-35). The playing field, which originally contained a baseball diamond, track and football field, had left and right outfield walls of 330'; and an outfield pole of 411'. The quarter-mile running track contained a 220 yard straight-away (Recreation, September 1937, pp. 397-398).

2. Foundation:

Built on landfill, the stadium's foundation consists of 1,600 tapered, reinforced concrete piles, 56' long with a top diameter of 14". Bleachers and the grandstand have

poured reinforced concrete platforms on top of these piles (Recreation, September 1937, pp. 382, 397-398).

3. Walls:

Exterior walls οf bleachers and grandstand constructed of concrete faced with two colors of brown brick laid in a 9 course common bond. Darker shades of the brick are used on tops of towers and to frame windows. Decorative elements include purple glazed terra cotta tiles used as window spandrels and columns which are topped by ochre colored concrete capitals (Drawings A-14, A-52). Outfield walls have cinder block cores covered with brown facing brick. Wall piers and gate towers are concrete with brown facing brick (Drawing A - 37).

Exterior walls are arranged in a series of towers and The main grandstand window walls. entrance is divided into a tripartite center section flanked by two towers with the center section divided by brick piers. Three windows are divided into three units by purple glazed terra cotta piers. Windows are topped by panels faced in purple glazed terra cotta tiles. Towers provide the Art Deco vertical definition and are covered in two shades of brown brick; the darker shade surrounds a tall narrow vertical rectangular window of glass block. The top of the tower is covered in purple glazed terra cotta tiles. Three 40' flagpoles are symmetrically arranged on the towers (Drawing

Walls connecting the secondary grandstand entrance towers follow the same tripartite design established in the main entrance. Windows here are longer and also separated by purple terra cotta piers and topped by panels faced in purple terra cotta tiles. Each window grouping, separated by brick piers, repeated four times between main and secondary entrances. These entrances are smaller than the main entrance but still follow the tripartite window design separated by purple terra cotta piers. The three sided tower has long vertical rectangular metal sash windows on the side elevations. Also in 2 colors of brick, the darker brick frames the windows. Two 40' flagpoles are on the tower. Two more units of window wall complete the grandstands (Drawing A-15).

Bleacher walls are the same as grandstand walls. Four window wall units extend from the grandstand end of the bleachers to the main bleacher entrance which have lower towers than those of the grandstand but follow the

same design theme using long vertical rectangular windows separated by brick piers. Windows are topped with purple glazed terra cotta tiles and windows are surrounded by the darker brick. Bleacher walls are then completed by 5 more window bays (Drawing A-32, A-35).

The outfield wall runs from the end of the bleachers to the outfield gates and is a brick faced wall with evenly spaced piers (the north wall has been demolished). The outfield gates, in brown brick, continue the design theme established in the stadium itself but have no windows or glazed tiles. One 30' flag pole is on each tower and the towers have copper roofs (Drawing A-37).

4. Structural System, Framing:

Grandstands and bleachers are steel framed with poured in place reinforced concrete seat tiers, floors, ramps, and steps.

Exterior walls are curtain walls of concrete faced with brick. A steel truss system supports the grandstand roof (Drawings A-14, A-35, A-52).

Outfield walls are cinder block with facing brick. Piers and gates are concrete with facing brick (Drawing A-37).

5. Porches, Stoops, Balconies, Bulkheads:

N/A

6. Chimneys:

There is one chimney at the southwest corner of the north grandstand entrance of concrete and facing brick with a concrete cap (Drawing A-52).

7. Openings:

A. Doorways and Doors: The grandstand has a tripartite main entrance with three large roll-type metal doors.

In each tower of the main entrance are small personnel size double doors of metal with 5 small "starburst" patterned plaques on each door.

Two smaller grandstand entrances have single roll type metal doors.

Each bleacher has one entrance with two roll type

Each bleacher has one entrance with two roll type metal doors. There are two field entrances, one between the grandstand and each bleacher. These openings are united to grandstand and bleacher

walls by brick panels with purple terra cotta piers above the opening. Below the panels are metal gate style doors hung on metal frames (Drawing A-35).

Outfield gates were originally wood and have now been replaced by metal gates similar to those in the field entrance (Drawings A-37).

B. Windows and Shutters: All windows in Roosevelt Stadium are arranged in vertical strips, generally in a tripartite pattern and are either glass block or wire glass in steel sash. Arrangements reflect the Art Deco style of the structure. The main entrance of the grandstand is a three-part window wall divided by brick piers. Each window section is further divided into three sections by purple terra cotta piers with the center section the widest. Within each window section, rectangular wire glass in steel sash windows is arranged in a decorative geometric pattern.

Side windows in the main entrance are narrow, vertical glass block strips.

Grandstand wall windows are also divided in the same fashion as main gate windows, into three parts, the widest section in the center. Windows here are rectangular and arranged in a regular pattern of 2x7 lights in the outside strips, and 3x7 lights in the center strip (Drawings A-14, A-20).

Secondary grandstand gates have 2x9 light windows in the sides of the gate tower. Above the larger entrance of these gates are three part windows with 3x7 lights in the outside sections and 4x7 lights in the center, all arranged in a rectangular pattern (Drawing A-15

Bleacher entrances have two windows divided by brick piers. Each window is rectangular with 3x5 lights.

Bleacher wall windows are also tripartite with a wider center section of 3x7 lights and narrower outer sections of 2x7 lights (Drawing A-32

8. Roof:

A. Shape, Covering: The grandstand roof is flat, sloped toward the exterior of the stadium and composed of 2" wood planks with 5 layers of roofing paper on top of the wood. The outer edge of the roof is ringed with 32 square concrete skylights. There are a number of structures on the roof. Centered, at the roof's edge toward the field is a wood framed press box, 10' wide 32' long and 8'6" high, reached by a metal gangplank.

Metal bases of two floodlight towers remain as do the bases for two radio antenna towers. Parts of stanchions for three symmetrically arranged linen net ball stops are intact, as are a number of evenly placed 20' metal flagpoles.

The tops of the grandstand entrance towers are divided into rooms and are reached by walking across the grandstand roof. Tower roofs are covered with roofing paper. Outfield gate roofs are covered with copper (Drawings A-6, A-7, A-13, A-18, A-36).

B. Cornices, Eaves:

N/A

C. Dormers, Cupolas, Towers:

On the grandstand roof are two concrete and brick towers. Both are 25'8" x 34'8" x 17' high. The north tower can only be reached by walking across the grandstand roof. The south tower is reached by a stair-case and contains the top of the elevator shaft, elevator machinery and an empty room, formerly the press lounge. The north tower, now empty, was used for ventilating equipment and as a storeroom (Drawing A-7).

Drainage and Sprinkler System:

The playing field was drained by a system of crushed rock trenches constructed with open joints and covered with bronze mesh. These drained into adjacent Newark Bay. A sprinkler system provided the equivalent of one inch of rainfall an hour (Recreation, September 1937, pp. 382, 397-398).

10. Playing Field:

The field was originally built of cinders, over loose clear fill, and top soil. On top of this was added sod, grass seed, peat moss and sheep manure. Over the course of forty years the field was repeatedly resodded. The playing field included a baseball diamond and outfield, a football field and quarter mile running track (Recreation, September 1937, pp. 382, 397-398).

11. Scoreboards:

Two scoreboards were constructed, one for football, the other for baseball, which collapsed in the 1970s. The remaining football scoreboard is 47'6" wide, 45'9" high, and 9'2" deep. (The "walls" are 1 1/2" thick)

It is 15' above ground level and supported on two steel truss piers anchored to below grade concrete foundations. The scoreboard is constructed of wood covered with galvanized iron sheets which are then painted. Manually operated, the score windows were reached by a steel ladder, from the ground (Drawing A-75).

12. Lighting System:

Exterior field lights consisted of 8 steel truss towers. Towers 2 and 7 were mounted on horizontal rectangular concrete stands in field entrances between bleachers and grandstand. These were 6' wide, 140' tall with the upper-most 20' filled with lights. Towers 3, 4, 5 and 6 were on vertical rectangular concrete block stands. These towers were identical to towers 2 and 7. Towers 1 and 8 were on the grandstand roof. These were 27'6" wide, and 72'6" high steel trusses, braced at the base by additional steel trusses (Drawing A-34).

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor Plans:

A. Ground Floor Plans:

Grandstand and bleacher ground floors are arranged around a central circulation corridor which runs the length of each section. Ringing the east, or interior wall of the grandstand were a succession of storage spaces, concession stands and men's and women's toilets. The west, or exterior wall, contained stadium entrances. turnstiles and ticket booths, administrative lobby, storerooms, the boiler room, umpire and manager's offices, visitors locker room, hometeam locker rooms and the commissary office. Team and visitors locker rooms were connected to dugouts by underground concrete tunnels (Drawings A-9, A-68). Bleacher groundfloors had concession stands, storerooms, and men's and women's toilets on the interior, or east wall. The exterior or west wall contained storerooms and entrances with ticket booths and turnstiles (Drawings A-3, A-30).

B. Second Floor Plans:

The grandstand interior or east wall is the upper level of the groundfloor. The exterior, or west wall, moving from the north, contains two large rooms originally used as offices, dressing rooms and showers for school events. Next to these was the first class lounge. Just south of the lounge was the administrative offices. The area has a double loaded corridor in the center. The interior, or east spaces contained toilets, equipment storage rooms, ticket sellers lounges, and ushers lounges. Three large administrative offices line the exterior or west wall, in addition to a reception room and a lobby with staircase and elevator. At the end of the hallway was the President's office and trophy room. The second floors of the bleachers are crawl spaces with access to mechanical systems (Drawings A-5, A-10, A-63, A-68).

Spectator seating areas in the grandstand are arranged in a semi-circle and essentially face east. Grandstand seats, wood in a metal frame, have on alternating aisle ends an R/S symbol and the seal of the City of Jersey City.

The seats are divided into 12 sections with 36 rows and eleven aisles (Drawings A-6, A-11). The bleachers, with backless wood benches, are divided into 4 sections with 40 rows and 3 aisles.

The top tier of the grandstand is a circulation space with bathrooms, ramps, stairway, elevator and concession stand and refigerator along the other wall (Drawing A-31).

2. Stairway:

Primary grandstand circulation is via two symmetrically arranged concrete and metal ramps which crossback on themselves and run from street level to the top level of the grandstand (Drawings A-23, $A-23\frac{1}{2}$).

Four symmetrically arranged concrete ramps lead from the ground floor up to the lowest level of the grandstands. Three ramps in each bleacher section are arranged and function similarly to grandstand ramps.

Arranged on each side of the main bleacher entrance are administrative entrances which each contained dog-leg staircases with terrazzo treads, Art Deco handrails and balusters of aluminum.

3. Flooring:

All office floors were covered with linoleum. Administrative entrances have terrazo flooring in a purple and beige chevron pattern (Drawings A-5, A-10, A-19, A-68, A-69). Main grandstand and bleacher entrances are pink concrete and brick in a diamond pattern.

Ground floor circulation areas in grandstand and bleachers as well as store rooms and locker rooms have concrete floors (Drawings A-9, A-19, A-30, A-69).

4. Wall and Ceiling Finishes:

Walls and ceilings have stucco over concrete block except for offices which had plaster walls and the President's office, which was covered with molded wood paneling (Drawings A-30, A-63).

- 5. Openings:
- A. Doorways and Doors: Interior doors vary. Some are multi-paneled wood doors, some were steel with glass panels and transoms; some are hollow metal (Drawings A-14, A-68).
- 6. Mechanical Systems:
- A. Heating, Air Conditioning, Ventilation: A boiler room was located at the north end of the grandstand, on the ground floor. The original boiler, with a 25,000 foot capacity was oil fired (Recreation, September 1937, pp. 382, 397-398).
- B. Lighting:

Incandescent, destroyed, although some metal shades remain in stadium seating area.

C. Plumbing:

Destroyed.

- D. Site:
 - 1. General Setting and Orientation:

The stadium is on landfill in Newark Bay. Entrances are on the bay or west side of the stadium. Seating in the stands faces east.

2. Outbuildings:

None.

3. Landscaping:

The stadium is set back from State Highway 440. A grass-covered and concrete median divides the entry road into an entry and exit.

A roadway that circles the stadium is also encircled by a ring of grass, a concrete sidewalk and an additional grassy strip planted with trees.

In front of the outfield gates is a stylized grass and concrete area in a pattern of half circles and reverse curves. The area is partially covered with grass and also contains roadways into the three outfield gates and concrete walks.

Directly opposite the grandstand's main gate is an oval shaped patch of grass, symmetrically planted, with a concrete fountain in the center of the plot.

To the south of the stadium is a large park, with circular concrete walks lined with trees and grass covered areas between the walks.

A large parking area is directly north of the stadium.

The entire site is surrounded by a stone wall (A-2, A-4).

Part III. SOURCES OF INFORMATON

A. Original Architectural Drawings:

See attached list and photographs of drawings.

- B. Early Views: See historic photographs.
- C. Interviews: John MacKeith, patron, July 1984.
- D. Bibliography:
 - 1. Primary and Unpublished Sources:

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- E. Likely Sources Not Yet Interviewed: Photographic Files of the Jersey Journal; The Bergen Record.
- F. Supplemental Material: A Historical and Physical Investigation of Roosevelt Stadium, Jersey City by Jane Carolan, Cultural Resource Group, Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. July 1984. Original located at LBA, East Orange, New Jersey.

"A Stadium Project in Jersey City," <u>Recreation</u>, Vol. 31, September 1973. Copy located in the New Jersey Room, Jersey City Library, Jersey City, New Jersey.

Prepared By: Jane Carolan

Title: Architectural Historian

Organization: Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.

Date: December 1984

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken for the Department of Housing and Economic Development, City of Jersey City, New Jersey, by the Cultural Resource Group of Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. in the fall of 1984. Jane Carolan was historian and project supervisor. Photography by Rob Tucher and drawings by Meekaa'Eel Muhummad.

Architectural Drawings of Roosevelt Stadium which are located at the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency, Jersey City, New Jersey

DATE OF PLANS: 1937, 1936

TRACED BY: WPA Project No. 7190-0B7

DRAWING NO:	DRAWING TITLE
A-1	General Plot Map
A-2	Roosevelt Stadium - General Layout Plan
A-3	Plan of West Half of Stadium - Ground Floor Layout
•	- Under Grandstand & Bleachers
A-4	Plan of East Half of Stadium
A-5	Plan of Second Floor Under Grandstand
A-6	Plan of West Half of Stadium - Top of Grandstand -
•	(Third Floor) & Bleachers General Seating
A-7	(Grandstand) Roof Plan - Showing Press Box, Tower,
•• •	Etc.
A-8	First Floor Plan - Center Section Under Grandstand
A-9	First Floor Plan - Right & Left Sections Under
•• •	Grandstand
A-10	Second Floor Plan - Center Section Under Grandstand
A-11	Third Floor Plan - Center Section Top of Grandstand
A-12	Second Floor Plan - Under Grandstand - Third Floor
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A-87	Door - Saddles
A-88	Ramp Exit Marquise - Details

The file also contains miscellaneous structural plans.